

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XLII. NO. 25

AMUSEMENTS TO-MORROW.

PARK THEATRE.—OUR BOARDING HOUSE.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—LEMONS.
WALLACK'S THEATRE.—ALL FOR HER.
BROADWAY THEATRE.—LEODIAS ROQUEVENTE.
UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—THE DANICHELLES.
HELENE'S THEATRE.—FRUITFULNESS.
KIBB'S GARDEN.—AROUND THE WORLD.
BROOKLYN ACADEMY.—RICHARD III.
GILMORE'S GARDEN.—GRAND EUROPEAN FESTIVAL.
OLYMPIC THEATRE.—THE BIG HORSEMAN.
BOWERY THEATRE.—PIQUE.
GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—FERNANDO.
BOOTH'S THEATRE.—FIFTH AVENUE.
NEW YORK AQUARIUM.
GERMANIA THEATRE.—TO THE MOON.
FONY PASTOR'S THEATRE.—VARIETY.
ITVOLI THEATRE.—VARIETY.
FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—TWO ORPHANS.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.
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EAGLE THEATRE.—ADRIEN.
EGYPTIAN HALL.—SENSATIONAL VARIETY.
PARISIAN VARIETIES.
COLUMBIA OPERA HOUSE.—VARIETY.
THEATRE COMIQUE.—VARIETY.

QUADRUPE SHEET.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1877.

NOTICE TO COUNTRY DEALERS.

The Adams Express Company run a special newspaper train over the Pennsylvania Railroad and its connections, leaving Jersey City at a quarter past four A. M. daily and Sunday, carrying the regular edition of the HERALD as far West as Harrisburg and South to Washington, reaching Philadelphia at a quarter past six A. M. and Washington at one P. M.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather in New York to-day will be cloudy and slightly colder, possibly with rain.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—The stock speculation indicated feverishness and prices were irregular. Gold opened at 105½ and closed at 105½. Money on call was in ample supply at 3 and 4 per cent. Government and railway bonds were moderately active and steady. The bank statement for the week shows a decrease in the legal reserve of \$944,525.

OUR REVELATIONS about the disposition and tendencies of the Spitz dog have created a lively demand for brickbats. Let the good work go on.

THAT COOKING SCHOOL in St. Mark's place should be suppressed if liquor dealers and doctors are to live, for people who are properly fed need neither stimulants nor medicine.

MRS. CUNNINGHAM'S WILL, alluded to elsewhere, is in one respect a model for people who have money to dispose of; but those who desire to emulate its spirit need not wait until they die.

THE INDICTMENT of the Vice President of the Security Life Insurance Company was very good as a beginning, but there is plenty more of such work to be done, in justice to the public, and it cannot be too speedily attended to.

THE MYSTERY of the Putnam county marriage seems partly unveiled by a strange document which we publish to-day, but in complications the case still outdoes the worst set of electoral returns that has reached Washington this winter.

A CORRESPONDENT in IRELAND alludes to the wonderful accuracy of the HERALD's predictions of weather on the European coast. We should be glad to give him more frequent evidence of our knowledge of the weather were it not that the fastest ocean mail steamers cannot compete in speed with gales from the west and carry the news in advance of the storms.

DR. MENDES' SERMON yesterday on "The Dietary Laws" should interest the religious, regardless of sectarian lines. When the human physique receives due attention from the pulpit there will not be so much occasion to complain of the human soul, and when in theological seminars the fact is recognized that even preachers have bodies churches will speedily become more attractive.

THE PROSPECT of evangelization of New York and Brooklyn by the Mormons may not seem to theologians a very strong one, but the preparations being made for the purpose are, according to our reporter, of a nature that explains whatever success the Latter Day Saints have attained to. Talk cannot hurt it; only the churches that mean business as earnestly as the Mormons do can arrest the progress of the threatened movement.

ALTHOUGH THE PUBLIC usually leans toward mercy for wrongdoers the general feeling will be that the mail robbers sentenced yesterday got off too easily. Theft from a hundred individuals certainly indicates that the robber is more dangerous to society than his light-fingered brethren generally, and as the best that can be said of our prisons is that they keep bad characters out of mischief, they should be compelled to do so for periods proportionate to the enormity of the offences committed.

ONE OF OUR ILLUSTRIOUS ALDERMEN says he opposes warning the cars because the drivers told him the passengers were comfortable. His name is Bryan Reilly. In selecting the latter as their spokesman they should have supplied him with a prepared speech crammed with learning about hygiene, or "high gin," as he is reported to term it. The nonsensical objections stated by the Hon. Bryan Reilly serve to show, however, how completely the Aldermen are under railroad influence when they officially endorse them by their votes.

THE WEATHER.—A slight barometric depression is moving over the Gulf States and has caused heavy rains in Louisiana and Texas. Cloudy and foggy weather has prevailed at all points eastward of the Mississippi River, with light rains on the North Atlantic coast and in the eastern part of the lower lake region. The highest pressure is now in the lake region and the lowest in the Eastern Gulf States. A depression is evidently moving toward Dakota from the far Northwest, and will probably bring heavy rains to the upper watersheds of the Missouri and the Mississippi. In this event freshets on these rivers may be expected. The Ohio has begun to rise rapidly at Pittsburg and the Mississippi continues to rise below Vicksburg, but at all other points the rivers have fallen decidedly. Generally rainy weather will prevail in the central and eastern districts during to-day. The weather in New York promises to be cloudy and slightly colder, possibly with rain.

The Docks and Transit Lines of New York.

History recounts so many instances in which the genius and energy of peoples have conquered physical conditions antagonistic to their happiness and prosperity that where such exist only in modified forms there is no reason why any civilized community should suffer even inconvenience in the mechanical management of its commerce. Where difficulties arise which can be removed by the exercise of intelligent energy the people who submit to burdens created by their own apathy deserve no sympathy in their misfortunes. The city of New York, by virtue of her geographical position and the unsurpassed natural facilities for commerce which surround her, should be by an undisputed title the commercial capital of the country. But through the unaccountable supineness of her citizens she is in danger of losing her trade, which is seeking in other and more enterprising ports the accommodations denied it at its old centre. The requirements of a seaboard city whose inhabitants aspire to making it the seat of commercial supremacy are readily recognized. With an easily approached, safe, expansive and navigable harbor, numerous lines of communication with all parts of the country in which it is situated, well located railroad termini adapted for the cheap and rapid transfer of freight to and from the ships and the cars, wide and well paved streets and an ample dock accommodation, prosperity and commercial supremacy over less favored rivals must follow as a matter of certainty. New York has the singular good fortune to possess some of these advantages in the fullest degree, while she lacks the others only because her people have failed to avail themselves of the simplest means of securing them. It is with these wants that we propose to deal in the present article.

The improvement of the water front of this city has been for years an absorbing topic with her business men. None of the features of the problem have escaped discussion, so that it is the best understood subject that elicits the attention of the public at the present time. When the plans for the new dock system were adopted by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund and preparations were made to carry them out in a practical manner we were promised a work which, when completed, would be perfect in detail and magnificent in its entirety. With merchants as Commissioners of Docks, and an eminent engineer in charge of the operations, ample supplies of money at the disposal of the department and public confidence centred in its efforts, we expected great things to be accomplished. But beyond a splendid parade of preparation, costly experiments that proved what was already well known to engineering science, the commencement of a stone pier near the Battery and the building of a boat stairs and a few wooden piers nothing was accomplished toward the realization of the hopes of the people of New York. From this false start may be dated all the blundering, inactivity, extravagance and absurd pretensions to extraordinary merit which have marked the history of the Dock Department down to the present day. According to the accounts of the Comptroller the issue of bonds to date for the purposes of the dock improvements is equal to five million four hundred and fifteen thousand dollars—a sum that is now bearing interest which is chargeable to the city revenue. During all the time that this money has been expended the public have never seen an intelligible report of the disbursements. True, the figures have appeared in municipal financial statements, but never accompanied by information that clearly indicated the character of the expenditures. We demand from the Dock Department an account of its stewardship, and until we get such appearances justify us in condemning its management of the people's money.

We do not wonder that the merchants of New York should call for an absolute change of plan and the substitution of crib work for the durable materials with which it has been attempted to construct the bulkhead wall. Perhaps, being unaware of the fact that a solid concrete and granite wall can be built at the rate of from one to four miles per annum and at a cost per lineal foot but little more than that of a line of perishable crib work, they deem any change that promises economy in time and expense a beneficial one to the city. But in this they are mistaken, as can be easily demonstrated if they take the trouble of inquiring into the matter. There is no difficulty whatever in the way of building a solid wall from the Battery to Sixtieth street at the rate of one, two, three or four miles per annum, except a financial one. If this does not arise then the work should proceed as fast as is required.

The relation of such a work to the improvement of our intermunicipal lines for freight transportation is very close. Indeed, it is impossible to perfect the latter without the completion of a considerable length of the bulkhead wall and the filling up of the spaces between it and the old water lines. The widening of the water front streets will give the desired accommodation for a perfect system of freight transportation by rail from the main roads to the warehouses and ships. These broad river streets will form the natural lines for the construction of freight roads, as the central avenues are those on which rapid transit for passengers can be best secured. Until the improvement of the water front is really commenced in earnest we cannot hope to accomplish anything toward bringing our railroad lines in connection with the shipping. It is not difficult to foresee the effect of this connection of the land and water lines of transportation. If such water front railroads for freight were constructed the space occupied at present by cheap groceries and sailors' boarding houses would be covered with stately storehouses, fitted for the reception and protection of all goods arriving from abroad or awaiting shipment at our piers. The centre of the city would be at once relieved from the crowded traffic that renders Broadway impassable at times, and seriously interferes with the legitimate trade of the districts of retail stores and small factories. Everything

depends, then, on the rapid and substantial completion of our water front improvements, for without them all others are impracticable.

The arguments in favor of the water front improvement apply equally to those of the Hudson and East rivers. While on the former the present necessity is, perhaps, the greatest, yet the time is not far distant when the East River front will demand an equal amount of attention. The prospective removal of all the obstructions to navigation in the Hell Gate channel and the development of commercial activity in the neighborhood of the Harlem River and the Westchester shore will compel the construction of a wide street along our eastern water front. Although it may be argued that commerce fixes its own standard of accommodations, and that it would be unwise to travel too far in advance of the present demands, it is certain that we must keep up with them. In our article published elsewhere in to-day's HERALD many important questions are discussed that bear directly on the solution of New York's greatest problems.

Our London and Paris Cable Letters.

There is no lack of interesting information in our cable letters. What the two great cities have gathered about them in the way of high politics and current gossip during the past week comes to us in attractive shape and convenient bulk. Low, hoarse whispers of a coming war in Europe, mingled with faint words of hope for peace, usher in our London story, while Paris begins its tale of German uneasiness with the threatening eye of Bismarck looking over the lately devastated frontier and warning the French not to think they have lost an iron-handed master yet. But the gloom soon lifts from both capitals, and we learn of Earl Beaconsfield strutting in his earl's robes before a looking glass which, if not true, is good. Then we hear of a manager bidding in the biggest theatre in London by mistake—a very curious thing to do. The English butchers have found a bonanza in American beef, but, alas! for human nature, they have organized to sell anatomical English bulls and skeleton cows for the American article, while they sell the Yankee meat as that of Hold Hingland. The cutlers of Sheffield are finding that American goods are crowding them out of the American markets, and they are told, for comfort, that they have themselves to blame. The Bishop of Manchester has made another defence of the theatre, and this time from behind the footlights—a warning to the railing, ranting Talmages of this land. Offenbach's latest *opéra bouffe* has not been so successful as that airy gentleman's book on America. Among the other things for which Europe is coming to America we may mention horses. Turkey is longing for our cartridges; so that until the potato bug turns up in Europe again there seems to be an unending supply of American staples and topics to keep us before the eyes of the people there who have not yet decided to emigrate hither. With pats on the back from the English papers over our political wisdom and financial honesty there will be found sufficient in our letters to make the average citizen go to church to-day with a proud consciousness of the superb destiny of the nation of which he is a not inconsiderable fraction.

Pulpit Topics To-day.

A short life and a merry one is probably much better and more to be desired than a long and weary one, and yet good may be and often is evolved from evil and the wrath of man is made to work out the righteousness of God. In the pelting storms of life a hiding place from the wind is an excellent thing, and One who has trod the wine press alone and traversed the waste places of life gives a great invitation to the weary and heavy laden to come to Him and find rest. Such a one giving an invitation so broad and all-inclusive would necessarily attract attention; and a natural inquiry, such as Mr. Sweetser will make to-day, would be, What manner of man is this who comes to seek and find and save lost humanity, whose word is as a hammer that beateh the rock in pieces or as a fire that burneth up the stubble of earth? The great and universal need of mankind to-day, Mr. Alger thinks, is a filial consciousness of God, and this every man can have who will put himself in a filial relation to God. Out of the fulness of his experience of their peculiar wants Dr. Talmage will speak to clerks and attendants in stores and offices who may wait on his ministry this morning. The death of the soul, in which there is an implication that that part of man may die, will be discussed by Mr. Giles. A look into the future will be taken by Dr. Armitage and the art of money making discovered. Popular scepticism, the Deluge in the light of science, the pulpit, stage and press, the philosophy and moral bearings of revivals, especially of those now being conducted by Messrs. Moody and Sankey, and the influence of religion on painting will be considered to-day in the pulpits of this city.

RECENTLY AN EXAMINATION has been made of the building on the southwest corner of Nassau and Fulton streets, occupied by the Commercial Advertiser, and it has been condemned as unsafe, both in the walls and cornices, to the passers by, and unsafe in various respects to the occupants. The owners, however, make a technical opposition to its repair on the plea of the insufficiency of the notice served on them by the Building Department. The issue is now in the courts, and the department ought, in the public interest, to be sustained. There is no question as to the dangerous condition of the building, and if any calamity should occur in consequence the owners, and not the department, would now be to blame.

IT IS THOUGHT.—One Washington correspondent says:—"It is thought that the democrats do not mean to accept the action of the commission as final if it goes against them." By whom this is thought we are not informed; neither are any particulars given as to whether this fancy is laid down in order to supply a pretext for more virulent declarations that the republicans will do likewise, or to be referred to as a reason and an excuse in case they should.

President Grant's Plan for Resumption.

The President's Message on the national finances was laid before Congress yesterday. Although the President does not deem it desirable to fix an earlier day than that designated by the Resumption act of 1875 for the obligatory redemption of legal tender notes in coin on presentation, he believes that it will be beneficial to the country to hasten the day when gold and greenbacks will bear an equal value. As a means of promoting that end the President proposes (1) that in accordance with the provisions of the Resumption act the four and a half per cent bonds therein authorized to be issued for that purpose shall be exchanged at par for gold in the markets of the world, thus strengthening the Treasury to meet final resumption and keeping the excess of coin over the demand pending its permanent use as a circulating medium at home, and (2) that, in order to reduce the volume of legal tender notes in circulation, a law be passed authorizing the issue of one hundred and fifty millions of four per cent forty year bonds, to be exchanged at par for legal tenders whenever presented in sums of fifty dollars or any multiple thereof. The President proposes further that these latter bonds be made available for deposit in the Treasury for banking purposes; that the national banks be required to retain a certain percentage of the coin interest received by them from their deposited bonds to secure their circulation, and that the section of the Silver act of last year which limits the fractional currency to fifty millions be repealed.

With gold bordering on 105, which is a much less discount on legal tenders than many of the bank notes of other States were subject to in New York in the old State banking days, no person will be alarmed at any proposition that can bring gold and greenbacks to an equal value. The imaginary "shock" to business which was to follow resumption has been the bugbear used by inflationists to frighten the unthinking and to discourage hard money views. But President Grant very clearly shows that we are now in a very good position to resume, and that by such legislation as will keep our coin at home to be used as a circulating medium we shall secure a healthy "inflation" of a sound currency. The Resumption act authorizes the redemption of legal tenders as the circulating notes of national banks are issued, up to the limit of three hundred millions, and the bonds proposed by the President would dispose of one-half of the surplus, leaving only one hundred and fifty millions of greenbacks in circulation. The legislation suggested must meet the views of the democratic party, whose Presidential platform only expressed opposition to the Resumption act because it failed to make sufficient provision for resumption on the day named in the law, and hence held out a false hope to the country. There is no reason, therefore, why the recommendations of the President should not receive the affirmative action of Congress.

The Louisiana Infamy.

The testimony taken yesterday before the Congressional committees in reference to the Louisiana case only serves to bring out in stronger relief the degraded character of the actors in the scenes that followed the election in that State. Littlefield, the clerk of the Returning Board, who swore before the House committee that he had altered and forged the Vernon returns under the direction of Governor Wells, underwent an examination before the sub-committee of the Senate on Privileges and Elections, and his private life and habits were severely overhauled. If the object of the examination was to prove the witness to be a thoroughly immoral and degraded man it was a success. But the story of the forgery of the returns and the destruction of the originals was circumstantially repeated; and, as an honest and reputable man would not be selected to do such work, the truthfulness of the story must be shaken, if shaken at all, by something more satisfactory than the proof of the bad character of the person who tells it.

The witness Maddox, who swears to the remarkable story about the one million dollars which was to be realized out of one or other of the political parties in exchange for the friendly services of the Louisiana Returning Board, was also made to admit his undesirable associations; but he nevertheless produced the sealed letter addressed by Governor Wells to Senator West, and it was opened by the latter in presence of the House Committee. Its contents would scarcely have been written by an honest man. In it Governor Wells, a member of the Board which was to impartially canvass the electoral vote, declares that the democrats shall never, with his consent, succeed, and he gives something more than a broad hint at the necessity of sending money to New Orleans. The letter in a great measure corroborates the former testimony given by Maddox. The country will breathe more freely when the atmosphere has been cleared of these pestilential Louisiana witnesses and their disclosures.

A Deathbed Parting.

There is something peculiarly touching in the deathbed interview between the President of the United States and Alexander H. Stephens, the ex-Vice President of the Confederacy. To the one is shortly coming the coveted relief from onerous and wearying public duties which have brought with them more than the ordinary share of anxiety and care. Before the other, after a life whose later years have been crowded with griefs and bitter regrets, opens the, perhaps, not unwelcome rest and peace of the grave. These two men, enlisted on opposite sides during the rebellion, yet with the love of the Union in the hearts of both, meet for the last time on earth and unite in an expression of thankfulness that a peaceful solution has been found for the new dangers that seemed to imperil the country, and of gratitude to those whose patriotism and statesmanship have led the nation safely through the crisis. Mr. Stephens, who went out of the Union with sorrow and returned to it with joy, can close

his eyes peacefully now that he knows the Republic is safe from this last threatened trouble. President Grant, who saved the Union in its deadly peril, can lay aside power with rejoicing now that his influence and action have aided to preserve the institutions of the country from a new danger.

The New York Stage.

What would we do if all the theatres should be closed? The drama has had in all times and in all countries such a profound hold upon humanity that its disappearance from the arts would be almost as deeply felt as the annihilation of books, and quite as much as the destruction of music, painting and sculpture. Nothing can replace it. Shakespeare in the book and Shakespeare on the stage are very different; for many of his greatest qualities can be only expressed in action. We give to the theatre the fullest recognition of its value as an instructor in every branch of thought. It has philosophy, poetry, humor, history, character, and includes in its own realm the arts of music, painting and sculpture. It is so close to humanity that it measures the condition of the nation or community. When the stage declines there must be something wrong in society, and when society is prosperous and healthy the acted drama is one of the most popular of its intellectual diversions.

We rejoice to know that the area of depression which rested over the theatres this winter is removed, and that the public interest in the drama is revived. The events of the last week and those announced for the present prove how great is the demand for novelty and what pains managers take to supply it. The Kellogg English opera company is giving a brief but brilliant season, the principal feature of which is the production, for the first time in this city, in English, of Wagner's "Flying Dutchman." It will be repeated this week, and on Friday evening "Mignon" will be sung for the benefit of Miss Kellogg. Miss Kellogg, by her enterprise, has fully justified the confidence of the public in her devotion to the highest art. At the Fifth Avenue Theatre the charming comedy of "Lemons" has delighted crowded houses with innocent fun and satire. The idea of the author is that the world is divided into two classes—lemons and lemon squeezers—and this applies to the camp, the court, the mart and government. Mr. James Lewis recalls in several of his scenes the happy humor of Burton, and the whole play is finely acted. Another amusing comedy is that of "Our Boarding House," at the Park, which possesses the genuine flavor of Western life. At Niblo's Garden we have extravaganza in "Around the World in Eighty Days" in its gayest forms, while at the Grand Opera House Mr. Daly's best works are in course of production. The romantic drama is beautifully represented at Wallack's by "All for Her," and the darker and more sombre passions have been depicted at the Union Square in "Miss Merton" by Miss Clara Morris, who yesterday bade what we hope will be a brief farewell to the New York stage. Our variety theatres were never better, and with the minstrel companies contribute largely to the entertainment of the metropolis. This week there are, at least, two events of importance, the production of Mr. Rowe's new local drama of "Fifth Avenue" at Booth's Theatre and the performance of "Les Danicheffs" at the Union Square. Among so many attractions it is difficult for the theatre goer to choose, and he might appropriately exclaim, "How happy could I be with either were I other dear charmer away."

Judge Kelley's Hallucinations.

Some few months since there was a great deal of brilliant sarcasm bestowed by the financiers of one party upon a financial proposition made by the other. Republican organs of all calibres "came down" worse than the Assyrian on the declaration of the democrats that a certain clause which fixed a date for resumption was a mischievous feature of our financial legislation and ought to be repealed. There was no end to the malevolent perversion with which this was distorted into a great inflation paper money plot, and now some distinguished republicans themselves are suddenly fulminating on their own account that piece of democratic thunder. One of the foremost of them wishes to bring the country "out of the shadow" of that famous resumption clause by changing the date to next month and thus to have done with the evil by "precipitating the crisis." It is possible that the democratic theory is financially correct, even though it is thus supported by Judge Kelley. This gentleman says that real estate in this city has declined in value within the last three years to the extent of \$500,000,000. Why does he choose that sum rather than another? He is a niggardly financier who stints himself as to ciphers in a case like this. There is no doubt that the difference between the actual value of real estate in this city and the dreams of speculators is nearer \$500,000,000,000. But the actual value is the same—now as it was three years ago. Since a distinguished financier quotes the airy visions of real estate projectors as a real basis of the value of property the public may understand how sound is the whole fabric of fancies on which he argues against the possibilities of early resumption.

A Brooklyn Monument.

It is an excellent proposition made over in Brooklyn to put up a monument at Fort Greene in memory of the Revolutionary heroes who perished in the prison ships at Wallabout; but it is not a happy fancy to wait the general government to supply the money. Brooklyn men should be proud of the opportunity to do that themselves. Our neighbor city stands on ground the greater part of which a more sentimental people would call sacred soil—soil richly stained with blood shed in one of the important battles of the great struggle, and that furnished graves for the martyrs of the prison ships. The possession of a site so rich in heroic associations seems to have satisfied in our neighbors those aspirations which in other cities result in whole crops of monumental splendor; for Brooklyn is, in respect to this

species of public decoration, one of the poorest cities in the world. It has remembered Lincoln, which is praiseworthy, and it has exhibited its literary taste in two other monuments. This is very little for so fine and rich a city. Let the Brooklyn men take hold of this Fort Greene project themselves and they will make a great success of it. Our national fault is that we start with projects so magnificent that they are never realized, and if Brooklyn avoids that error we may see Fort Greene nobly beautified within a few years.

Turkish Reform.

Turkey will do whatever England wishes whenever England wishes her to do what she is herself inclined to do; but if England's desires move in the other direction then Turkey, sublimely regrets that England is deceived and has fallen into the hands of Turkey's enemies. England should feel proud that she has the sympathies of Turkey in a case of this nature. It is explained, with more or less authority, that the advice offered through the Marquis of Salisbury was necessarily rejected for reasons related to the latter part of the above statement. Turkey knew that England would not give such advice if England really understood the case, and so she acted on her intimate knowledge of what England would have advised if better informed. Turkey has given notice to the Powers of the appointment of three Christians as Governors of provinces, which is going through the motions of reform, at least; but what measures she has taken to render it impossible that these appointments can be of any value we do not yet know. It may be taken for granted that the preventive measures will be more effective than the appointments, however; for Turkey's policy is now decided definitely, that as the Christian population constantly complicates the relations of the Porte with Europe that population must be killed out as a source of national danger.

A Padlock, a Bellows and Some Straw.

The Board of Aldermen have adopted a resolution recommending that in place of warning street cars by art government rules be accepted, as follows:—1. Close the front doors in cold weather. 2. Strew the floors with clean straw, which straw as to quantity is to be regulated by the Board of Health. 3. Ventilation, also regulated by the Board of Health. Let the bored suggest to the Board, so that it may carry out its plan:—Put up in each car a good thermometer, screw a padlock on each door and give the keys to the keeper of the Governor's room in the City Hall. This key should not be mistaken for that which opens the whiskey closet in the keeper's room. There should be a special board of inspectors appointed to see that the straw in the cars for passengers is as clean as that given out to the horses, and this committee should be composed of Messrs. Gunter and Kelly. Make it a rule that each shareholder of the company shall blow out the foul air every five minutes, even if he is compelled to hire a bellows. And let the following sign be put up in each car:—

A blue nose slip for a closed front door.
A pink nose slip for new clean straw.
A white nose slip for a ventilator.
Punch in the presence of the cold fellow.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

M. Gambetta will visit London in June.
Mr. William Beach Lawrence, of Rhode Island, is at the Brevoort.
Mr. Spurgeon is going to the South of France to recruit his health.
Mr. E. L. Godkin, the editor of the Nation, has in press a work on government.
An Armenian has arrived in London with power from the Turkish government to negotiate the sale of the Holy Land.

There is a report that the Pope proposes to subdivide Scotland into dioceses, and that Cardinal Manning is assisting him in the scheme.

A comprehensively school inspector asked an Aberdeen class if any one could tell him anything remarkable in the life of Moses. Boys—"Yes, sir; he was the only man who broke all the commandments at once."

The warmth of the season throughout France has been so singular that the storks have not yet migrated, and the wild ducks and geese have remained in their summer quarters. The storms also have brought to the coast creatures frequenting very different regions.

The Empress Eugénie will return to England in February. Her Majesty's visit to Rome does not appear to have given her so much satisfaction as she anticipated. The Empress is growing rather stout; it is to be hoped it is a healthy sign. The Prince is popular with all classes.

At a Paris masquerade ball a tier was brought in by a procession of people, who, leaving the candles, walked solemnly out. The masqueraders chafed the man who was lying on the tier, and one, more venturesome than the others, lifted the pall, disclosing a corpse, with a dagger through his heart. The French are always funny.

Mr. MacDonald is described as a man who has penetrated so deeply into the spiritual life, and his earnestness as well as his imagination are so exercised, that a certain sense of reality remains even in the midst of wire-drawn religious arguments and analyses of conditions. The only solution one can find is that Mr. MacDonald, though he would prefer to rank himself as a preacher and a teacher, is still more a poet—a poet of the discernment in subtle spiritual problems and processes, and with a power to illuminate the most recalcitrant of inward experiences by fancy and image.

One day, on the Boulevard Perreire, Paris, a mad dog started in pursuit of a velocipede, mounted by a boy of fourteen, named Dupray, living in the Boulevard, No. 15. The chase was a terrible one, and ended in the fall of the boy. Happily it was in the iron of the velocipede wheel that the teeth of the mad bulldog closed. * * * There ended the first act of the drama. The second follows. In an impulse of passionate joy on seeing her son saved from so great a danger Mme. Dupray pressed her lips to the wheel of the velocipede. Some hydrophobic virus had remained on the iron, and after an agony of a fortnight the poor mother died, raging mad.

A French soldier was sitting, a short time back, on the summit of a hill overlooking a garrison town; his horse was picketed near by; the man was smoking leisurely, and from time to time glancing from the esplanade to a big official envelope he had in his hand. A comrade passed and said, "What are you doing there?" "I am bearing the President MacMahon's pardon for our friend Pichmann, who is to be shot this morning," replied the smoker. "Well, then, hurry along with it," said his comrade. "O not so, there is hardly a soul on the esplanade and the firing platoon has not yet been formed. You surely would not have me rob my appearance of all dramatic effect."

An amusing anecdote is related about the "Danube Blue" of Johann Strauss, which proves that his author is not so great an enemy to adventurous publicity as is generally supposed. A man remarked to him on one occasion:—"I very much admire the titles of your waltzes. There is one, however, which I can never explain to myself, and that is the 'Danube Blue'; why that color?" "I know as well as you," replied Strauss, "that the Danube is ordinarily green, and sometimes yellow, but never blue; I could not, however, have called my waltz the green Danube or the yellow Danube, as no one would have taken to the title, while the 'Danube Blue' has a slight tinge of poetry which pleases, and thus the success of the piece has been great."